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SUBJECT: U.S.-UK CLUSTER MUNITIONS DIALOGUE

REF: A. 2008 LONDON 3082
1B. 2008 STATE 229199

Classified By: PM/WRA DEPUTY DIRECTOR STEVEN COSTNER For reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

Summary

1. (C) Summary: In the latest bilateral consultation on the cluster munitions issue, Department and DoD representatives met with representative
2. (C) Nicolas Pickard, head of the FCO Security Policy Group accompanied by his deputy Andrew Ford and Clare Bloomfield from the UK Embassy,

CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

3. (C) Pickard informed the group that the Convention on Cluster Munitions has been put on the draft Parliamentary agenda for the next session
4. (C) Pickard also noted a gap between the UK interpretation of the CCM and its policy decision regarding removal of cluster munitions stockpiles
5. (C) In answer to queries about the case-by-case temporary storage exception for specific missions, Pickard and Ford confirmed that the concept
6. (C) Costner requested that Pickard provide confirmation that the requests for temporary storage would be considered on an operation-by-operation basis

CCM AT NATO

7. (C) Hodson outlined our concerns about potential proposals at NATO related to next steps on CCM and interoperability. He stressed that we could not

CCW

8. (C) Ford expressed UK support for concluding a Protocol on cluster munitions in the CCW, but doubted that it would be possible given extremely

WAY FORWARD

9. (C) Regarding our bilateral conversation, the Department will work with DoD to answer the questions posed about the accelerated timeline at the Clinton